



U.S. Department of Justice


Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

January 24, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FROM: Robert Raben   
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Weekly Report for January 24, 2000 - January 28, 2000

The House and Senate reconvened today.

KEY EVENTS

- On January 24<sup>th</sup>, Senators Mack, Lott, Helms, Graham, Robb and Torricelli introduced legislation to confer U.S. citizenship on Elian Gonzalez. The full Senate could vote on the measure as early as January 26<sup>th</sup>. Majority Leader Lott, however, has indicated the vote could be postponed until next week. OLA continues to be in contact with House and Senate offices on this issue. (First)
- On January 26<sup>th</sup>, you are scheduled to meet with Chairman Henry Hyde to discuss a variety of topics. (Wilson)

THE WEEK AHEAD

National Medical Care Settlement. On January 24<sup>th</sup>, John Bentivoglio of the Deputy Attorney General's Office, Civil Division's Michael Hertz, and staff from the Office of Legislative Affairs, provided a briefing to Senate staff on the Department's \$486 million settlement of health care fraud claims against National Medical Care. (Pearlman/Burton)

Asset Forfeiture Legislation. On January 24<sup>th</sup>, the Office of Legislative Affairs provided a status report to the Attorney General's Advisory Committee (AGAC) on competing forfeiture bills in the Senate. (Daley)

Immigration. Two hearings are scheduled this week: one on terrorism and one on the Northern Border.

Chairman Lamar Smith plans to use his House Immigration Subcommittee hearing on January 25<sup>th</sup> to call for full implementation of the entry-exit system mandated by IIRIRA in 1996. The Administration has worked for a long time to modify this provision, with little success. No government witnesses have been invited to the House hearing.

Chairman Abraham's hearing on January 26<sup>th</sup> in the Senate Immigration Subcommittee is expected to focus on the need for increased resources on the Northern Border. Michael Pearson, head of INS Field Operations, will testify for the Department. (First)

Bankruptcy. A cloture vote is scheduled for January 25<sup>th</sup> in the Senate on S. 625, the Bankruptcy Reform legislation. The current impasse is over two democratic amendments to limit debtor protection for abortion protestors and gun manufacturers. According to the Majority Manager of the legislation, Senator Grassley, it appears they don't have the votes for cloture. They are exploring ways to get around it, with the threat that Senator Lott will pull the bill if they don't work something out. (Wilson)

Internet Gambling. At the request of staff from the House Subcommittee on Crime; a meeting will be held on January 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss Internet Gambling legislation. (Daley)

Worst Case Scenario. On January 28<sup>th</sup>, the Office of Legislative Affairs and the Office of the Deputy Attorney General will brief Senator Lautenberg's Environment and Public Works staff on the status of the site security survey to be conducted pursuant to P.L. 106-40, the Chemical Safety Information, Site Security and Fuels Regulatory Relief Act. (Daley)

H.R. 809, Protective Services Legislation. Staff from the Office of Legislative Affairs, the Criminal Division and the FBI, in response to a request from Representative Traficant's office, will brief his staff on the Department's views of this legislation sometime this week. (Daley)

ADA and the Internet. On February 9<sup>th</sup>, the Constitution Subcommittee (Canady, Chair) of the House Judiciary Committee is planning a hearing on how people with disabilities have access to the Internet. Staff from OLA and the Civil Rights Division will meet with staff for Ranking Minority Member Watt on January 24<sup>th</sup>, in preparation for the hearing. (Scott-Finan)

Police Integrity. The Department's Working Group continues to meet in planning sessions for the follow-up meeting to the June conference on "racial-profiling/data collection" to be held on February 17<sup>th</sup>. (Scott-Finan)

Nominations. Staff from the Office of Legislative Affairs and Office of Policy Development continue to meet on judicial nominations to prepare for the reconvened session of Congress. (Scott-Finan)

#### THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Money Laundering. On January 18<sup>th</sup>, representatives of the Departments of Justice and Treasury met with staffers of Representatives Scott, McCollum and Roukema to discuss the Administration's money laundering bill.

On January 21<sup>st</sup>, OLA staff accompanied Criminal Division officials to meet with staff of Senator Levin, Ranking Member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, concerning money laundering enforcement issues. (Graupensperger)